

REMARKS

On March 15, 2005, the undersigned spoke to the Examiner regarding the obviousness rejection of claims 41-46. In particular, the question of motivation to combine references was discussed.

The Examiner agreed that the prior art must provide motivation to combine references. See, e.g., Ex parte Chicago Rawhide Mfg. Co., 223 USPQ 351, 353 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1984).

“The prior art must provide a motivation or reason for the worker in the art, without the benefit of appellant’s specification, to make the necessary changes in the reference device.” Id. at 353.

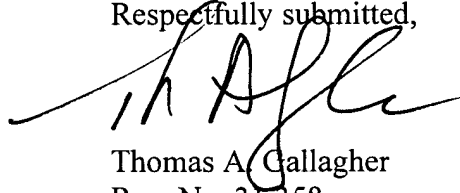
The Examiner further agreed that the art cited in the rejection did not provide the required motivation.

The Examiner stated that in response to this submission he would withdraw the rejection unless he could find some reference which provides the required motivation.

In light of all of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in order for allowance, and prompt allowance is earnestly requested. Should any issues remain

outstanding, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney of record so that the case may proceed expeditiously to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. A. Gallagher', written over the typed name.

Thomas A. Gallagher
Reg. No. 31,358
Attorney for Applicant(s)

GORDON & JACOBSON, P.C.
60 Long Ridge Road
Suite 407
Stamford, CT 06902
Tel: (203) 323-1800
Fax: (203) 323-1803

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